

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 10312 172150Z

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ACTION ARA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6304

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 10312

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SHLAUDEMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OTRA, VE

SUBJECT: DESIRABILITY OF ORIENTATION TRIP TO VENEZUELA OF
MARION V. CREEKMORE, JR.

1. DURING MY RECENT CONSULTATION, I RECOMMENDED THAT MARION CREEKMORE, OF THE OFFICE OF FUELS AND ENERGY, VISIT VENEZUELA TO FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF WITH THE MANY PRESSING AND IMPORTANT PROBLEMS WHICH WE NOW CONFRONT AND WILL INCREASINGLY BE PREOCCUPIED WITH IN TERMS OF U.S.-VENEZUELAN ENERGY RELATIONSHIPS. IT WAS MY FEELING THAT CREEKMORE'S VISIT COULD COINCIDE WITH THAT OF SONANDRES IN ORDER THAT BRIEFINGS BY IMPORTANT PETROLEUM AND OTHER COMPANIES COULD BE ADDRESSED TO BOTH OFFICERS.

2. IT IS WITH GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT THAT I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT NEITHER ARA NOR EB CAN FIND FUNDS TO FINANCE A ROUND-TRIP, ECONOMY CLASS TICKET FOR MR. CREEKMORE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS TELEGRAM IS TO BEG YOUR RECONSIDERATION OF THESE NEGATIVE DECISIONS. I AM CONVINCED THAT IF CREEKMORE BECOMES FULLY CONVERSANT WITH OUR PROBLEMS ON THE GROUND, HE WILL BE OF EVEN GREATER AND INVALUABLE HELP IN THE POLICY ELABORATION TO COME.

MCCLINTOCK

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